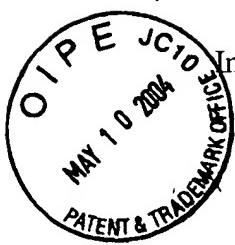


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Inventor : Yasuji OTA
Masanao SUZUKI
Yoshiteru TSUCHINAGA

Serial No. : 09/386,824

RECEIVED

MAY 14 2004

Technology Center 2600

Filed : August 31, 1999

Title **VOICE CODING METHOD, VOICE CODING APPARATUS, AND VOICE DECODING APPARATUS**

Examiner : Abul K. Azad

Group Art Unit : 2654

May 10, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Sir:

Applicant hereby petitions for a two-month extension, a petition pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(A) and authorization to charge the requisite fee being enclosed.

In response to the final Office Action dated December 10, 2003, please amend the subject application as follows:

Any fee due as a result of this paper, not covered by an enclosed check, may be charged on Deposit Acct. No. 50-1290.

Filed by Express Mail
Receipt No. 62 984 88196 45
On May 10-04
By Patricia Muir
Patricia Muir